

From: ["Bryan, David" </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE:GROUP \(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT\)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=DE67FD66319E475AA76B7FB0C64D64B5-BRYAN.DAVID>](mailto:Bryan.David@EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE:GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=DE67FD66319E475AA76B7FB0C64D64B5-BRYAN.DAVID)

To: [Bustos](#)  
[Patrick;Frizzell](#)  
["Damon;R7 Senior" <Staff;Slugantz>](#)  
[Lynn](#)

CC:

Date: 9/22/2014 7:28:22 AM

Subject: OPA Morning Clips - 9/22/14

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**KMOX Radio St. Louis - Residents Living Near Bridgeton Landfill Learn of Proposed Evacuation Plan** - 9/19/14 - Last night, Bridgeton Landfill neighbors got a glimpse at the evacuation plan, should the landfill fire hit the surface or run into nearby radioactive waste. The most likely scenario, should the underground fire hit the surface or nuclear waste, would be for neighbors to shelter in place. <http://stlouis.cbslocal.com/2014/09/19/residents-living-near-bridgeton-landfill-learn-of-proposed-evacuation-plan/>

**Des Moines Register - EPA: We can have clean water and not harm farming** - 9/20/14 - The EPA is not interested in a final rule that will make farming more difficult. We will not complete the rule until we have carefully reviewed the public comments, until our scientific analysis and peer review are complete, and until we have worked to make the rule understandable, technically accurate and legally correct. <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/opinion/columnists/2014/09/21/epa-clean-water-farming-can-coexist/15994379/>  
NOTE: Paywall issues may keep you from seeing this article. Full text is included at the end of this email.

**Des Moines Register - Letter: Clean water goal contrasts Braley, Ernst** - 9/20/14 - The proposed clarification of the Clean Water Act provides a clear contrast between the two Senate candidates in their approach to problem solving. <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/opinion/readers/2014/09/21/clean-water-goal-contrasts-braley-ernst/15993481/>  
NOTE: Paywall issues may keep you from seeing this article. Full text is included at the end of this email.

**Lincoln Journal-Star - Brooks: Rule wouldn't hurt farming** - 9/20/14 - I want to make sure Nebraskans know the facts. The EPA intends to protect clean water without getting in the way of farming and ranching. Normal farming practices including planting, plowing and harvesting have always been exempt from Clean Water Act regulations. Our proposal doesn't change that. [http://journalstar.com/news/opinion/mailbag/letter-rule-wouldn-t-hurt-farming/article\\_f266f038-60bc-5c5f-bdf7-dc23e256df17.html](http://journalstar.com/news/opinion/mailbag/letter-rule-wouldn-t-hurt-farming/article_f266f038-60bc-5c5f-bdf7-dc23e256df17.html)

**Omaha World-Herald - Region administrator: EPA is not meddling** - 9/21/14 - We will not complete the rule until we have carefully reviewed the public comments, until our scientific analysis and peer review are complete and until we have worked to make the rule understandable, technically accurate and legally correct. [http://www.omaha.com/opinion/region-administrator-epa-is-not-meddling/article\\_3c472acc-15bd-584c-b925-c9c72a11f75b.html](http://www.omaha.com/opinion/region-administrator-epa-is-not-meddling/article_3c472acc-15bd-584c-b925-c9c72a11f75b.html)

**Omaha World-Herald - Midlands Voices: EPA's water proposal not neighborly** - 9/21/14 - In the countryside, there's a saying that good fences make for good neighbors. It means that it's much easier to be friendly with your neighbor if neither of you trespass on the other's property or on the other's privacy. The Environmental Protection Agency and the Obama administration would be well served to familiarize themselves with the saying. [http://www.omaha.com/opinion/midlands-voices-epa-s-water-proposal-not-neighborly/article\\_c4b12e12-4515-5c4e-9078-fa23ff6b2ed7.html](http://www.omaha.com/opinion/midlands-voices-epa-s-water-proposal-not-neighborly/article_c4b12e12-4515-5c4e-9078-fa23ff6b2ed7.html)

**Salina Journal (Kan.) – Brooks Letter: Protecting our water** - 9/17/14 - When Congress passed the Clean Water Act in 1972, it didn't just defend the mighty Mississippi or Missouri rivers from pollution. It also protected our smaller streams and wetlands that flow into rivers like the Arkansas, Kaw, Ninnescah, Smoky Hill, and Neosho in Kansas. <http://www.salina.com/editorials/Brooks-letter-9-17-142014-09-22T02-22-54>

**The Missourian (Columbia, Mo.) - Despite encouraging signs, Hinkson Creek remains an impaired stream** - 9/18/14 - Recent findings indicate water quality in Hinkson Creek has improved, but not enough for the state to change its classification as an impaired stream. <http://www.columbiamissourian.com/a/179218/despite-encouraging-signs-hinkson-creek-remains-an-impaired-stream/>

**High Plains Journal (Hays, Kan.) - Homegrown, renewable fuels provide energy independence** - 9/22/14 - Biodiesel and ethanol, two energy sources made from soybeans and corn, respectively, are homegrown and locally produced. For Renewable Fuels Month in September, Nebraska farmers celebrate these homegrown crops and their abundant number of renewable uses. <http://www.hpj.com/archives/2014/sep14/sep22/0915RenewableEnergyNBrt.cfm>

**Waterloo Cedar Falls Courier - Supporters see U.S. 1st District Republican** - 9/19/14 - Congressional candidate Rod Blum as right on the issues important to Iowa farmers. Those issues include stopping an overzealous U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and expanding international markets. [http://wcfcourier.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/general-election-2014/more-trade-less-epa-blum-tells-farmers-in-cedar-falls/article\\_f4aa835b-b5a9-5860-99aa-885da291ca63.html](http://wcfcourier.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/general-election-2014/more-trade-less-epa-blum-tells-farmers-in-cedar-falls/article_f4aa835b-b5a9-5860-99aa-885da291ca63.html)

**Nebraska Radio Network - Sen. Johanns: EPA shouldn't garnish wages without court consent** - 9/19/14 - Sen. Mike Johanns doesn't want the Environmental Protection Agency to garnish the wages of Americans without a court order. Johanns has introduced legislation with South Dakota Sen. John Thune to prevent the EPA from moving forward with a new rule. <http://nebraskaradionetwork.com/2014/09/19/sen-johanns-doesnt-epa-to-garnish-wages-without-court-consent/>

**Wichita Business Journal - Shutting down Wolf Creek nuclear plant expected to cost \$1 billion** - 9/22/14 - When Wolf Creek nuclear plant reaches the end of its useful life in about 30 years, it is likely to cost more than \$1 billion and take about eight years to dismantle the plant, according to a new report from the Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corp. to the Kansas Corporation Commission. [http://www.bizjournals.com/wichita/morning\\_call/2014/09/shutting-down-wolf-creek-nuclear-plant-expected-to.html](http://www.bizjournals.com/wichita/morning_call/2014/09/shutting-down-wolf-creek-nuclear-plant-expected-to.html)

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**Des Moines Register**

## **Editorial ~ EPA: We can have clean water and not harm farming**

By Karl Brooks  
9/20/14

When Congress passed the Clean Water Act in 1972, it didn't just defend the mighty Mississippi or Missouri rivers from pollution. It also protected our smaller streams and wetlands that flow into rivers like the Des Moines, Cedar and Raccoon in Iowa.

Streams and wetlands are crucial for fishing, hunting, tourism, agriculture, recreation, energy and businesses.

Under the Clean Water Act, EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers released a draft proposal in March that strengthens protection for clean water. Science shows us what kinds of streams and wetlands impact water downstream — so our proposal says that these waters should be protected.

America thrives on clean water. One in three Americans — 117 million of us — get our drinking water from streams, creeks and wetlands currently lacking clear protection. And safeguarding smaller streams is crucial for our economy, too — as recent water contamination in Toledo, Ohio, showed.

I want to make sure you know the facts. The EPA intends to protect clean water without getting in the way of farming and ranching.

Normal farming practices, including planting, plowing and harvesting, have always been exempt from Clean Water Act regulations.

Our proposal doesn't change that.

The Clean Water Act only deals with the pollution and destruction of waterways — not land use. Also, the proposal does not regulate new types of ditches, does not apply to groundwater and does not change the exemption for stock ponds.

The EPA is not interested in a final rule that will make farming more difficult.

I understand that people have questions and concerns about the proposal. We work daily to address them because everyone agrees that protecting the long-term health of our nation's waters is essential.

The public comment period for the proposal is open until Oct. 20, and we encourage your input to make sure we craft a strong, workable final rule.

The comment process is enriched when we hear from landowners, the business community, farmers, scientists, conservationists, energy companies, states and local governments. The agencies need to hear valuable experience, clear perspectives, and important information.

We will not complete the rule until we have carefully reviewed the public comments, until our scientific analysis and peer review are complete, and until we have worked to make the rule understandable, technically accurate and legally correct.

THE AUTHOR:

KARL BROOKS is administrator for U.S. Environment Protection Agency's Region 7, which includes Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and nine tribal nations. Contact: [r7actionline@epa.gov](mailto:r7actionline@epa.gov).

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**Des Moines Register - Letter to the Editor**

## **Clean water goal contrasts Braley, Ernst**

Rick Smith, Urbandale

11:22 p.m. CDT September 20, 2014

Regarding "Proposal on Waterway Oversight Stirs Argument" (Sept. 18): The proposed clarification of the Clean Water Act provides a clear contrast between the two Senate candidates in their approach to problem solving.

Joni Ernst once again demonstrated her out-of-touch views by her demand to eliminate environmental protections for Iowa waters by closing the EPA. Her attacks on clean-water rules are clear by her demand to repeal the Clean Water Act, passed in 1972 by overwhelming support by both Democrats and Republicans.

Bruce Braley supports cleaning up Iowa waters, but he also supports assisting farmers and supported an amendment that would have guaranteed the historic exemptions for farmers. He recognizes that agriculture must be a partner in the clean-up effort.

Ernst takes a no-compromise stance to end long-established clean-water goals, which will result in a continuing deterioration in our water quality. Braley works to find compromise among all the stakeholders and assist Iowa farmers who are working to clean up our waters.

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